

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 8 (canceled)

9. (new) A backlight unit comprising:

a first optical sheet having coefficients of expansion different between a first direction and a second direction in a plane with the coefficient of linear expansion in the first direction larger than that in the second direction; and

a second optical sheet that is an optical different from the first optical sheet and that is disposed adjacently to the first optical sheet and in a separable manner in a direction normal to the plane thereof, wherein, the coefficient of linear expansion of the second optical sheet in the direction corresponding to the first direction is approximated to the coefficient of linear expansion of the first optical sheet in the first direction.

10. (new) The backlight unit according to claim 9, wherein

the first optical sheet is a reflective polarizing sheet;

the second optical sheet is at least any one of the sheets selected from the group consisting of a prism sheet, a wave sheet, a diffusion sheet, and an ITO sheet; and

the first direction is the transmission axis direction of the reflective polarizing sheet.

11. (new) The backlight unit according to claim 9, wherein the second optical sheet is formed of at least any one of the materials selected from the group consisting of a polycarbonate resin, a polystyrene resin, a polyacetal resin, and a nylon 6 resin.

12. (new) The backlight unit according to claim 9, wherein the second optical sheet is arranged on the side opposite to light sources provided in the backlight unit with respect to the first optical sheet.

13. (new) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
the backlight unit according to claim 9 ; and
a liquid crystal panel irradiated with light from the backlight unit.

14. (new) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
the backlight unit according to claim 9; and
a liquid crystal panel irradiated with light from the backlight unit, wherein
the first optical sheet is a reflective polarizing sheet, and
the transmission axis direction of the reflective polarizing sheet and the short side direction of the liquid crystal panel are arranged in parallel.

15. (new) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 14, wherein the prism sheet or the wave sheet is used for the second optical sheet and an array direction of the prism or the wave is arranged with a rotation around the axis of the normal direction of the screen by a certain angle with respect to the vertical direction or the horizontal direction of pixel array provided on the liquid crystal panel.

16. (new) A backlight unit comprising:

a first optical sheet with a coefficient of linear expansion larger than a predetermined value in a first direction in a plane; and

a second optical sheet that is an optical sheet different from the first optical sheet and that is disposed adjacently to the first optical sheet in a separable manner and in a direction normal to the plane thereof, where in the coefficient of linear expansion of the second optical sheet in the direction corresponding to the first direction is approximated to the coefficient of linear expansion of the first optical sheet in the first direction.

17. (new) The backlight unit according to claim 16, wherein

the first optical sheet is a reflective polarizing sheet;

the second optical sheet is at least any one of the sheets selected from the group consisting of a prism sheet, a wave sheet, a diffusion sheet, and an ITO sheet; and

the first direction is the transmission axis direction of the reflective polarizing sheet.

18. (new) The backlight unit according to claim 16, wherein the second optical sheet is formed of at least any one of the materials selected from the group consisting of a polycarbonate resin, a polystyrene resin, a polyacetal resin, and a nylon 6 resin.

19. (new) The backlight unit according to claim 16, wherein the second optical sheet is arranged on the side opposite to light sources provided in the backlight unit with respect to the first optical sheet.

20. (new) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
the backlight unit according to claim 16 ; and
a liquid crystal panel irradiated with light from the backlight unit.

21. (new) A liquid crystal display device comprising:
the backlight unit according to claim 16; and
a liquid crystal panel irradiated with light from the backlight unit, wherein
the first optical sheet is a reflective polarizing sheet, and
the transmission axis direction of the reflective polarizing sheet and the short side
direction of the liquid crystal panel are arranged in parallel.

22. (new) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 20, wherein the prism
sheet or the wave sheet is used for the second optical sheet and an array direction of the prism or
the wave is arranged with a rotation around the axis of the normal direction of the screen by a
certain angle with respect to the vertical direction or the horizontal direction of pixel array
provided on the liquid crystal panel.